

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080395

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 4370 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALL EC
CAPITALS BELGRADE BERLIN BUCHAREST BUDAPEST MOSCOW OSLO OTTAWA
PRAGUE SOFIA WARSAW USNATO MAR 22

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 04370

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECE, XH, CSCE, SENV
SUBJECT: ECE AMBASSADORIAL WESTERN CAUCUS MEETING,
MARCH 17

REF: (A) STATE 67794, (B) GENEVA 4250

1. SUMMARY: AT MARCH 17 MEETING OF ECE WESTERN CAUCUS
AMBASSADORS NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON HOW TO HANDLE
SOVIET PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE SEPARATE ITEM ON AGENDA OF
ECE 33RD SESSION ON BREZHNEV PROPOSALS FOR HIGH-LEVEL
MEETING (HLM) ON ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND TRANSPORT.
IN VIEW OF INDICATION THAT EAST WILL NOT PUSH ON CZECH
REQUEST TO HAVE STANOVNIK PREPARE ANNOTATIONS OF TOPICS
PROPOSED FOR POSSIBLE ENERGY AND TRANSPORT HLM, CAUCUS
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DID NOT FEEL NEED TO GO ON RECORD SUPPORTING STANOVNIK
REFUSAL TO DO SO. END SUMMARY.

2. AT MARCH 17 ECE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL WESTERN CAUCUS
MEETING, NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR BRIEFED CAUCUS ON RECENT
CONTACTS WITH THE POLISH AMBASSADOR WHO CHAIRS EASTERN
CAUCUS. HE NOTED THAT THE EAST IS CONCERNED THAT BEL-

GRADE MEETING WILL NEGATIVELY INFLUENCE 33RD SESSION. STANOVNIK ALSO EXPRESSED THIS VIEW WHILE IN WARSAW RECENTLY. POLISH AMBASSADOR PROPOSED THAT 33RD SESSION SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE AND TO FACILITATE THIS THERE SHOULD BE INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BEFORE SESSION. AT SUGGESTION OF DANISH AMBASSADOR SPEAKING FOR THE NINE, CAUCUS AGREED THAT CONTACTS COULD MOST USEFULLY TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE TWO CAUCUSES' CHAIRMEN AND SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING. THE NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR AGREED NOT TO INITIATE ANY CONTACT WITH HIS EASTERN COUNTERPART BEFORE WESTERN CAUCUS TO BE HELD DURING WEEK OF APRIL 3.

3. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT USSR ORALLY REQUESTED THAT ITS PROPOSED SEPARATE ITEM ON BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS BE PLACED BEFORE THE PRESENT ITEM 5 (THE WORK AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION) ON THE AGENDA. AS BUREAU MUST CONSIDER WHERE TO PLACE ITEM ON PROVISIONAL AGENDA WHEN IT MEETS APRIL 10, A NEW PROVISIONAL AGENDA HAS NOT YET BEEN ISSUED. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR THEN INDICATED THE CAUCUS COULD EITHER PLACE SOVIET ITEM AS ITEM 6, MAKE IT A SUB-ITEM OF ITEM 5, OR REJECT INCLUSION OF ITEM ON AGENDA. DANISH AMBASSADOR, SPEAKING ON HIS OWN BEHALF, SUGGESTED OUTRIGHT REFUSAL WOULD CREATE POOR ATMOSPHERE FOR COMMISSION SESSION AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SUGGESTED THAT ITEM SHOULD BE MADE A SUB-ITEM OF ITEM 5, THUS FOLLOWING LAST YEAR'S PRACTICE. TURKEY AND AUSTRIA ALSO SUPPORTED THIS VIEW WITH LATTER NOTING THAT THERE WAS LESS DANGER OF A SEPARATE RESOLUTION ON BREZHNEV PROPOSALS IF SOVIET PROPOSAL WAS NOT MADE A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM. SWISS AND GREEK REPRESENTATIVES URGED THAT CAUCUS NOT TAKE A DECISION ON THIS MATTER NOW AND SWISS ADDED WE SHOULD NOT ACCEPT INCLUSION OF SOVIET ITEM WITHOUT OBTAINING SOMETHING IN RETURN. CAUCUS AGREED TO LEAVE THE MATTER OPEN.

4. BEFORE STARTING DISCUSSION ON CZECH LETTER REQUESTING THAT STANOVNIK PRODUCE ANALYTICAL ANNOTATIONS ON TOPICS SUGGESTED FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS ON ENERGY AND TRANSPORT, NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR ANNOUNCED THAT GDR HAS INDICATED EAST DOESN'T EXPECT THESE ANNOTATIONS TO BE PRESENTED AT 33RD SESSION, BUT RATHER THAT THIS IS THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED DURING THE NEXT WORKING YEAR. (I.E., THIS IS WHAT THE EAST EXPECTS TO GET OUT OF THE 33RD SESSION ON ENERGY AND TRANSPORT.) NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT CZECH LETTER AND LETTERS SUPPORTING IT HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED AS OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS FOR 33RD

SESSION. SWITZERLAND AND FRG EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND QUESTIONED PROPRIETY OF STANOVNIK'S ACTION. CAUCUS CHAIRMAN WAS ON THE POINT OF PROPOSING THAT SOME MILD CRITICISM BE CONVEYED TO STANOVNIK WHEN UK AMBASSADOR HEATEDLY POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS STANOVNIK'S DUTY TO CIRCULATE ANY DOCUMENT THAT A MEMBER REQUESTED HE CIRCULATE. MATTER WAS LEFT UP IN THE AIR, BUT IN VIEW OF GDR STATEMENT THERE DID NOT SEEM TO BE NEED FOR CAUCUS TO GO ON RECORD SUPPORTING STANOVNIK'S REFUSAL TO UNDERTAKE ANALYSIS REQUESTED IN CZECH LETTER.

5. CAUCUS APPROVED SPANISH AMBASSADOR, FERNANDO BENITO, AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF 33RD COMMISSION SESSION AND THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES TO BE MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP:
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DENMARK, SWITZERLAND, GREECE AND NORWAY. GREEK MEMBERSHIP WAS APPROVED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT TURKEY WOULD BE IN THE CONTACT GROUP NEXT YEAR. IT WAS ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CONTACT GROUP COULD ONLY TAKE UP POINTS ALREADY IN THE CAUCUS. U.S. MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE EXPECT CONTACT GROUP TO BE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS, AND CHAIRMAN CONFIRMED THIS WOULD BE THE CASE.

6. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR OUTLINED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON WHICH RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE INTRODUCED AT 33RD SESSION:

A. SOVIET HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

B. OVERALL ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

C. TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

D. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (ROMANIA WILL PROBABLY PROPOSE TEXT).

E. ROLE OF WOMEN (STANOVNIK HAS BEEN UNDER SOME PRESSURE FROM NEW YORK AND NORDICS TO HAVE ECE MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO DECADE FOR WOMEN. STANOVNIK BELIEVES SOME MEMBERS DON'T WANT ECE TO GET INTO SOCIAL QUESTION, BUT THAT ECE CAN DO SOMETHING ON THE ECONOMIC ROLE OF WOMEN. STANOVNIK WILL RAISE THIS TOPIC IN OPENING SPEECH TO THE COMMISSION AND WILL PROBABLY PROPOSE A SEMINAR ON THE ECONOMIC ASPECT OF WOMEN IN EMPLOYMENT.)

F. STANOVNIK'S PROPOSAL TO CREATE SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENERGY.

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G. PROPOSAL BY MEDITERRANEAN STATES SIMILAR TO
RESOLUTION INTRODUCED LAST YEAR.
7. SEPTTEL REPORTS ON DISCUSSION OF NORWEGIAN DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT.
VANDEN HEUVEL. UNQUOTE COOPER

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